

To California Baton Council Members, Parents, Coaches, and Athletes:

The California Baton Council would like to welcome you to the 2017-2018 baton twirling season. We have a few changes and highlights for this upcoming season. First off, I would like to start by introducing the 2017-2018 CBC Board Officers and Board of Directors. Without this wonderful group of dedicated women and men, this season would not be possible!

The CBC Board Officers are:

President	Kristine Rodrigues
Vice President	Sarah Enos
Secretary	Kaleo Crawford
Treasurer	Tina Allman

The CBC Board of Directors are: Cynthia Barden, Mary Brace, Jeannie DiPaola, Alex Garibay, Catreena Hale, Irene Mazzini, Kellie Perelman and Jennifer Sawin. We are fortunate to have the Executive Director of Sport living in our State - so Mark Nash is an automatic member of our Board. We welcome Catreena and Mary as being a first time Board of Directors. Thank you isn't enough for the time, energy and dedication that Barbara Docktor has provided the Board over the past many many years! Thank you Barbara!

Competition Schedule:

We are planning another full season this year starting with our December event. Below are important dates:

12/09/17	Nash Twirling Academy - Sacramento/Lincoln General Area
01/13/18	Dynamics - Central Valley Area
02/10/18	Buckeye Cuties - Redding
02/16 - 2/19/18	Twirl Mania - Florida
03/03/18	Revolution - Sacramento Area
03/23 - 03/25/18	US Trials - Shelbyville, Indiana
04/08/18	Valley Baton Club - San Jose/Brentwood Area
04/28/18	PHMC - Brentwood/Folsom
05/19 - 05/20/18	State Championships - Folsom (confirmed)
06/2018	Western Regionals - TBD
07/08 - 07/14/18	National Championships - Jacksonville, Florida
08/02 - 08/05/18	World Championships, Kissimmee, Florida

Depending upon gym availability the competitions may be on the Sunday of the same weekend. We will update our website and Facebook page as gym confirmations are made. We are excited to have a new competition director this year, Loretta Hinojosa. Competition Directors put a lot of time and energy into their competitions, I am hopeful everyone will support all the CBC sponsored competitions.

Competition Reminders/Updates/Changes:

- 1) For the safety of our athletes and your own safety, we are asking that parents do not enter the floor. For clarity, the floor is the entire floor area, not just the part used for the competition. Parents and family members should remain in the stands. The Competition Director and the Board Members will ensure that the floor is clear for the safety of the athletes.

- 2) Once the music begins, there must **NOT** be any walking back and forth on the floor, for the respect and safety of the athletes. The Competition Director and the Board Members will be monitoring to ensure the athletes' safety.
- 3) Competition Directors have the discretion on how the tables are arranged at the competition. Facility and competition size is all taken into consideration. You may see some competitions set up like the Nationals format - where all tables are facing the audience. It is critical that #2 above is strictly followed with ANY set-up, but this format (if utilized by the competition director) it is critical.
- 4) Coaches and parents are reminded not to approach the judge's table. Only coaches can discuss scoring with the judges and that conversation occurs after completion of the competition.
- 5) Coaches, please do not stand directly behind the lane your athlete is performing in. Stand off to the side of the competition floor.
- 6) Parents and coaches, please be familiar with the USTA rules regarding the number of wins for each level. The CBC does not monitor or track these results, so please ensure that you are tracking your athlete's wins, and entering the appropriate category. For more information on the number of wins, please see Chapter 3 of the USTA Rule Book. You can locate the USTA Rule Book on www.ustawirling.com under Members Only, then in the Documents tab.

Please remember all wins at First places won at any level of competition in an event count toward advancement in that event. In advancing from one level to the next (beginner to intermediate, etc.) the USTA **DOES** recognize other twirling association wins in that respective event. The only exception is in the strut event, where the USTA **DOES NOT** recognize any other twirling association wins in the strut event.

- 7) Please limit activity at the announcers table. If a Coach, Parent or Judge needs to discuss a matter with the Competition Director, please keep it brief or wait till the end of the competition.
- 8) We will continue the IC/World critique fundraiser, however, we are changing the name and who receives the benefit of the donations. It will now be called Critique Fundraiser (C/F) and 75% of the funds collected will be provided directly to the CBC athletes attending the World or International Cup event. The remaining 25% will be evenly split between the Competition Director and CBC.
- 9) To be eligible for the C/F fund distribution, the California athlete must compete in 3 CBC Competitions during the current competition year, be entered in at least one C/F event and be a California resident. The maximum contribution would be \$1,000 per athlete. Any remaining funds will be carried over each year.
- 10) Compulsories: Will continue to remain a part of the set system with assigned lanes, and set numbers, or may occur during Foundation events in a separate lane or room.
- 11) Team awards: Team Awards will be announced right after *Minute to Spin*. The announcement will allow the teams who place within their category to receive recognition.

- 12) We will continue a couple of non-sanctioned events. We will continue the Flag & Rifle event and we are excited to announce that we will continue to include the High School/Collegiate show routine. This routine will be done to your fight song, band music or your own music and is intended to be either a half-time or field show routine. This event will occur during the freestyle event (\$25) and the judges will provide critique similar to the freestyle events. CBC is very supportive of our athletes performing for their school and excited to see these fun and peppy routines.
- 13) We are pleased to add a couple of categories. Although we will no longer offer the non-sanctioned recreational events, we are adding the Intermediate category for all teams and trio events. Consistent with USTA we will also add Artistic Group to our group events. Also, beginning September 2018, the Dance Twirl event is being renamed to Artistic Twirl and Pairs will be renamed Duet.
- 14) The Competition Director has been provided the discretion to set the start time for the competition. The start time may vary between 8 and 9 am - so be aware that the start time might vary.
- 15) CBC will be developing a generic volunteer listing to assist all competition directors throughout the year. Look for this email and ensure that you and your love ones' volunteer for a role (or roles) throughout this season. This is extremely important to ensure the competitions run smoothly and assist everyone with consistency.
- 16) The CBC will require that all Judges in California will have a clerk at everyone competition. To ensure that this is successful, we need volunteers to clerk (see above for the need of volunteers).

Competition Programs:

Again this season, programs will be provided on the CBC website. We will be emailing a DRAFT program on Monday before the competition to all competition attendees, coaches, and judges for review. Any changes should be reported immediately to the Competition Director and the FINAL program will be posted on the CBC website Wednesday before the competition.

Competition Format:

Other than the new additional events, there are no changes to the format of the competitions. The CBC is in discussion regarding a change to the State format, as soon as it has been confirmed, we will send something out with any changes.

Email Addresses:

Please ensure that the parent's email address is on the entry form (instead of the athlete) as we use the entry email address to send periodic information and updates. We will also be sending the DRAFT program to the address on the entry form.

Donation Programs:

There are at least two ways for you to donate funds to the CBC: **E-Scrip:** Register your debit/credit cards and with every purchase at participating merchants a certain percentage of your purchase will go directly to the CBC. If you participate in the survey after your purchase (sent to you via email) you can double your E-Scrip donation. **Employer matching program:** Certain employers will match your donation to a non-profit organization. Kaiser is one such organization and the past several years the CBC has

received a large donation from Kaiser. A big thank you to those CBC members who work and participate through Kaiser. CBC is also exploring other way to develop additional fundraising for the CBC.

Membership and Booster Membership:

Are you a member of the CBC? This season we are hoping to increase our membership in all three categories. Get your CBC membership today as CBC Members will have access to ALL photos taken at local and State competitions. The photos will be access via a website and password. Tina Allman is CBC's Membership Coordinator, any questions, please connect with Tina. The membership form is included in this email. The membership fees will be increased for the 2019 season. The Individual Membership will be \$20 and the Booster Membership will be \$10. No increase for the business membership.

Entry Forms:

Entry forms will be updated on the CBC website shortly. Please remember for the STATE ENTRY **do not use** the regular season entry form. The local competition entry forms will be on the website shortly. Please remember the State competition entry form is different and will be available on the website once complete. The PayPal fee is being increased to 3.5% to ensure all fees are covered.

Late Entries:

Each competition - except State - will have two deadlines. Please make note of the entry deadlines. Again, this season late entries WILL NOT be accepted. To ensure that the competition program is correctly updated on Monday and the correct awards are available for our athletes, we **MUST** comply with the deadlines. Please mark your calendar.

Minute to Spin It:

Thank you to Paige Campbell for facilitating this extremely fun event for all. We will continue this event again this season. Following compulsories, Paige will announce the twirl/or skill - and every participant who completes the task will be recognized with a special treat! **THIS IS A FREE EVENT OPEN TO ALL ATHLETES, AND NON-ATHLETES, OF ALL LEVELS!** We look forward to having more judges, coaches, parents, dads, grandparents, council members, etc. out on the floor to participate!

WOW Twirler:

The WOW Twirler is an athlete which displays extraordinary sportsmanship during our competitions. Congratulations to Baylee Pine (2012), Jenna Arlie (2013), Jacey Callahan (2014), Kira O'Grady (2015), Faith Bellinger (2106) and Thea Seely (2017) who have been deserving recipients. Anyone can submit nominations each competition in the WOW Twirler box located at the membership table if you see any act of kindness or sportsmanship. The Board looks forward to reading all the wonderful entries and the WOW Twirler will be announced during the State competition.

PHMC Theme and Essay Questions:

The Patsy Hamilton Memorial Competition (PHMC) is an annual baton twirling competition dedicated to the memory of Patsy. Patsy loved to write and had just renewed that love by taking some writing classes, just prior to her untimely passing at a baton competition. Thus the reasons for our essay contest each year in her honor. Patsy's husband Bud, and daughters Cindy and Lori look forward to judging the essays each year. It is important to all members of the council to keep her memory alive. Here is a quote by Cindy, Patsy's daughter, "Over the years it's been wonderful to read the thoughts of competitors, ranging in age from about 5 to 17, on what life lessons the sport of baton twirling teaches. Mom was also a writer and she would be delighted about the nature of this legacy!" The theme

for 2018 PHMC College Twirling. The question for the essay is:

Which College do you want to twirl at and why?

Stay tuned for the entry process. CBC is working with the Hamilton family to streamline and possibly automate the PHMC essay entry process.

High School Seniors - Scholarship Program:

Are you going to college next year? Would some additional funds assist you in your endeavor? Kurtis Hubbell (2012), Emily McCrone (2013), Brianne Turnbull (2015) and Jade McVay (2016) have been recipients of the CBC High School Senior Scholarship. This Scholarship program is for all high school seniors. All applicants will be recognized at the State competition. The application will be posted on the CBC website shortly.

Alumni Information:

CBC continues to gain information on all of our past twirlers. If you know of former athletes please have them connect with me. We would love to reconnect with our alumni and have special recognition of these wonderful athletes at our competitions.

Communication:

Make sure to check out our website (www.cabatoncouncil.com) and Facebook page (California Baton Council) frequently for updates throughout the season. We are also going to be using other forms of communication to ensure that you have the most up-to-date information. Please feel free to let any Board Member know your thoughts on these new tools.

Closing:

We value your input, and appreciate the responses we received throughout the season. Please feel free to contact with any one of the Board Members with questions, concerns, or ideas for improvement. We look forward to receiving continued feedback from all of you throughout this season.

As this season gets started, we are excited to see the growth in all the current athletes and look forward to all those fresh faces that are new to this awesome sport. The CBC Board is looking forward to another successful twirling season with our California athletes.

Ready, Set...Twirl!

Always,

Kristine M. Rodrigues
President, California Baton Council
moraetoo@gmail.com
916-690-5593